

# Talisman

**Talisman ... A Unique New-Age Shop**

**150 Main Street**

**Monroe, CT 06468**

**(203) 261-0047**

[www.talismanct.com](http://www.talismanct.com)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Talisman-A-Unique-New-Age-Store>

***Spellcraft by Talisman product***

**listing:** <http://www.talismanct.com/images/Talisman%20Product%20List.pdf>

**August 1, 2015**

**Note:** For those of you who enjoy reading my narrative at the beginning of each monthly newsletter, remember I do have a blog with Hearst Publications – check it out at <http://blog.ctnews.com/lenhard>. Also, if you are on Facebook - Friend me! And "like" the shop (link above).

## **Merry Greetings!**

My friend Lino was the owner of Venezia Deli next door to Talisman. He died last year on June 5<sup>th</sup> at the age of 47. He was diagnosed with lung cancer (he didn't smoke) and six months later he died. I honestly didn't want to think, talk or write about it until now. We met when I opened Talisman, our sons were both two years old, and they grew up running between the shops and playing on the sidewalk outside our front doors. And while he would sometimes stop in to chat after work, Lino was a Catholic and made it clear (respectfully) he wasn't "into" the new age stuff – but what set him apart, what made him special, is that he was simply a really good man. One of the best men I have ever known - a good father, a good husband, and a good friend. We spoke almost every day, sometimes small talk – sometimes events in the news, sports, kids – shared our frustrations as small business owners in a tough economy. Personal struggles. He owned Venezia for 25 years and worked tirelessly 7 days a week. Lino was a kind and generous man – quietly, he let people buy on credit and shared food with those less fortunate. He couldn't stand the thought of someone going hungry. I miss him terribly.

Even Lino's last name was special – "DArcangelo" which literally translates to "The Archangel". So it was kind of funny and very sweet that about a year before he died, Pina (an angel reader and oracle who works at Talisman one or two Saturdays each month) was in his shop getting a sandwich one Saturday. A gifted Medium, Pina casually mentioned to me that

while Lino was making her sandwich, his mother stopped by in spirit and had made herself known. However, Lino was not nearly so calm about it when we spoke a day later – he was thrilled beyond belief. He told me “Laura, she absolutely saw my mother – I know she was here! Pina says to me there’s a woman standing right next to you, wearing a pink ruffled apron. She’s saying that she loves to come by and watch you cook. Oh, and she says you are getting too thin, you need to eat! Yeah, she would say that, I’ve been hitting the gym every morning before work. And she wore that apron every single day, she described it perfectly! I called my brother after she left, I was crying – guess what? Mommy came by for a visit!”

I never mentioned it again, but I found myself hoping that experience was a comfort to him, as he faced down his own mortality less than a year later.

You see, that’s the thing about Mediumship (spirit communication) – it’s the validation, the ability to go from believing in an afterlife – to KNOWING there is an afterlife. I am blessed to know some exceptional psychic mediums – Roland Comtois, Robin of Seymour, my dear friend Lina who reads at the Angel Store up the road from Talisman. Barbara Delong, Starr and Naima Provo have all shared their gifts of Mediumship with us here; and our own readers Rachel, Mark, Susan and Constance have great talent in this area as well. I respect them all – but I just think some of the funniest stories have been Pina’s! I remember one time, she and Barbara Delong were doing a Spirit Circle downstairs and two sisters whose mother had died of cancer a few years earlier were present. Their grandmother came through – with a vengeance! It seems that while their mother was very ill, their grandmother came to stay with them to take care of her daughter and grandchildren. As her own mother grew sicker, the younger daughter began staying with a friend whose mother began to “take over” and overstep her boundaries. This was not lost on the grandmother, who felt highly insulted. So at one point in the evening, when an older woman came through very agitated and speaking quickly in an Italian dialect Pina was unfamiliar with, she stumbled over the message. Later, she relayed the story for my benefit. “She was apparently very upset, with someone she is calling ... wait, can this be right? ... the whore of the devil?” The girls (along with everyone else in the room) just broke up laughing. And yes, the girls explained that in her anger the grandmother had refused to utter the offending party’s name – referring to her simply as the Whore of the Devil (which sounds only marginally nicer in Italian). And apparently she was not willing to let go of her vendetta anytime soon in the afterlife!

As for me – I am not a Medium. While I have seen fully manifested people in spirit, and in fact on more than one occasion began talking with them before realizing they weren’t fully, um, present ... I usually block those energies, because I just don’t have time to take care of my kids, the shop, my animals, everyone who comes to see me PLUS their dead friends and relatives,

too. And in fact, the biggest reason Talisman hosts a variety of readers and it's NOT just "The Laura Show" (yuck!) is that by doing so, it allows a wide range of personalities and talents to be available to a much larger audience – no one, no matter how talented, can read everyone successfully. Every reader at Talisman is over the age of 35, has been reading for at least ten years, and been able to successfully read ME and tell me things about myself, my kids, the shop, my home – things they couldn't possibly have known about beforehand.

That's not to say I don't have some homegrown talent coming up – many of you met my oldest son Derek, who has been working for the past two years at a spiritual retreat and organic farm in upstate California. His ability to move energy is quite exceptional (thanks to two great teachers, Cathy Kane and Barbara Allen) and he did "Chair Reiki" for awhile at the shop. As of August, Whitney will be joining us and doing energy work in this manner for one or two Saturdays a month (see dates and description below). My youngest daughter Daisy surprised me about seven years ago, while I was in a reading and she was watching the front desk. A young woman had come in, and when she sat down in the reading room quickly asked "Are you one of those who talks to dead people?" "No, I am sorry but I'm not a Medium" I answered. She began to tear up and told me that her father had died just a few weeks earlier and she had really hoped to speak with him. Regardless, we began the tarot reading and weren't long at it when Daisy (age 9) knocked before coming in. "There's a man out there" she said very matter of fact. "That's weird, I never even heard anyone come through the door ..." "Nope, not that kind of a man. He's a – well I guess he is a ghost or something. He's here for HER" she said, pointing. Knowing that Daisy couldn't have heard any part of our conversation, I asked if he wanted to say something? "Yes, he says he is sorry – he didn't think he was going to die so quick. It was really quick, he didn't get to say goodbye and he really wanted to. He knows she feels bad about that. So he wants her to know he is sorry, it just happened so fast but that's it. And yeah, he wants to say remember he loves her and he'll always be nearby don't worry". At this point, the girl burst into tears and Daisy got scared. I told her to leave us alone for a minute and we'd talk after – and as soon as Daisy left, she said "Oh my god – that WAS him! That's why I wanted to talk to him – he went into the hospital, he was feeling sick but no one thought he was going to die and I didn't get there in time to say goodbye. I was feeling so guilty and so sad, I just miss him so much ..."

A couple evenings ago, Roy (who is my youngest, just turned 11) and I were walking the dogs after work and talking. Earlier, Daisy had walked into the living room and loudly expressed her annoyance with the number of people and other energies that had taken to "walking through" her bedroom. Not amused at all, she demanded a sage clearing. So Roy asked me about it, but before I could answer he said "Daisy sees dead people and that's okay for her but they creep me out. I ignore them, and they go away. I don't want to talk to them. But you know, mom, when I

sit with the dogs or my guinea pig it's like I can tell what they are thinking, I feel their energy. I like that. And angels – sometimes I feel them around me. I think maybe when I am older I will be able to talk to them, or they will talk to me and tell me things. What do you think, mom?" I sighed, and said "Yeah, I think maybe it's time we have you come in on a Saturday and we'll talk to Pina, sweetie" "Oh, I like Pina! She's funny. She talks to angels, right?" "Yes, she does – and dead people, too. Did I ever tell you about this one time she went to Mr. Lino's and while he was making her a sandwich, she saw his mom who had died? Here, let me tell you about it ..."

My grandmother used to say it's important to tell and re-tell the stories about our family, our loved ones, over and over again. Because after we die and our spirits go on to where ever they go – it's those stories we pass along through the kids and grandkids that ensure our memories live forever, too.

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**NEW-AGE FAIRES HELD EVERY SATURDAY**

**12:00pm-6:00pm - (203) 261-0047 for appointments**

**Readers (\$30/30 minutes - cash only)**

**Please call in advance for readers' schedules as they are subject to change**

To see our Readers' background information, visit:

<http://www.talismanct.com/images/Readerslist14.pdf>

**Introducing Whitney:** Whitney is an energy healer whose abilities exploded to a new strength a decade ago. She comes from a long line of healers and multi-faceted "clairs". She is a Reiki Master Teacher (Usui Reiki), Mahatma Energy Infusion Therapist, Master Teacher in Magnified Healing®, and Rising Star™ Practitioner. She is coming to Talisman to offer chair Reiki sessions (although that is usually not the only healing energy that comes in during her sessions). Additionally, she particularly loves to work on all kinds of animals and has volunteered her abilities to numerous small animal rescues in Connecticut. Whitney will do chair (seated) Reiki Sessions on August 8 and August 22 from 2-6pm. 20 min / \$15.

**August 1**

Gwen Lord - Whole Life Tarot (Past Life recall)

Mark - Tarot or Reflexology (Mediumship)

Pina - Angel Oracle (Mediumship)

**August 8**

Gwen Lord - Whole Life Tarot (Past Life recall)

Niki - Angel Cards  
Susan - Tarot  
Whitney - Chair Reiki (\$15/20 min)

**August 15**

Andrew Neblett - Tarot and Runes  
Constance - Tarot (Mediumship)  
Mark - Tarot or Reflexology (Mediumship)  
Pina - Angel Oracle (Mediumship)

**August 22**

Gwen Lord - Whole Life Tarot (Past Life recall)  
Mark - Tarot or Reflexology (Mediumship)  
Rachel – Tarot or Animal Communicator (pets welcome or can work from photo) (Mediumship)  
Susan - Tarot  
Whitney - Chair Reiki (\$15/20min)

**August 29**

Gwen Lord - Whole Life Tarot (Past Life recall)  
Mark - Tarot or Reflexology (Mediumship)  
Niki - Angel Cards

**The designation of "mediumship" is NOT a guarantee that your loved one(s) will present themselves in the reading - it means the channel is open and a particular reader is skilled at recognizing and then relaying information when/if it comes through.**

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**Talisman's Regularly-Scheduled Readers**

**(203) 261-0047 for appointments - Cash payment requested**

**Tuesdays:** Niki, Angel Readings, Mediumship \$30/30min 12-4pm

**Fridays:** Mark Hoyt: Spirit Guided Tarot - Foot Reflexology Treatments 2-8pm. \$30/30 minutes. .

We do things a bit differently at Talisman. You pay our readers AFTER the reading is finished, and if you are not happy you don't pay. NO READER can read EVERYONE successfully and everyone who works at Talisman is aware of this fact. Know that it is acceptable after the first 5 minutes of a reading to say something like, "I'm sorry, what you are saying just isn't resonating

with me. I would like to stop the reading now, but thank you for your time". If you do not hear something amazing in the first five minutes, or if it just isn't right ... don't expect a reading to get better as it goes on. Readings go off track for a number of reasons - but the point is, you shouldn't pay if you are not happy. Please, just be courteous and respectful. Complaints are rare because every reader has had to pass the "ultimate interview" ... they must sit and read ME (and I've been reading over 25 years myself) and tell me something about my past/personal life, my children, home, or business that they could not possibly have heard or learned someplace else. But every reader has their unique gift and their own style, it is NOT one size fits all. Personally, I don't think anyone should get a reading more than once every 6-8 weeks and prefer you allow at least 3 months between readings ... you don't want to become a psychoholic, right? I WILL discourage you from this behavior! My goal is to see people leave an "intuitive counseling session" (because that is really what we do) feeling validated, uplifted and hopeful regardless of the situation or challenges they may be facing. That is the true measure of a "good" reading!

**Available by Appointment:**

Talisman's readers are available for parties and events. You can pay by the hour or allow us to set up and have your guests/attendees pay individually. We do our best to be flexible and fairly priced. Our party rates are \$70 an hour, plus gas/mileage OR guests can pay if they choose to get readings at \$1/minute. Please make all scheduling arrangements through Laura at (203) 261-0047. We also book private parties at the shop, with readers of your choice. Just ask!

**Reflexology Fridays with Mark:** This ancient healing art uses hand/thumb pressure corresponding to the body systems. The practice stimulates/relaxes stress signals resulting in relaxation (who DOESN'T love having their feet rubbed?), pain reduction, and rejuvenation of tired feet -- helping you stand tall in the world! Come in after a hard week of work and treat yourself in Mark's chair (\$30/30 minutes).

**Laura:** I do special, in-depth readings by appointment. My 45+ minute private sessions include a chakra check up, a print out and review of your astrological natal chart, tarot and palm reading, and more! (\$50). Call the shop for an appointment, as I schedule these when the shop is closed or after-hours. I am also doing private half hour sessions (\$30) before hours and on weekends. Yes, I still do **\$5 readings** on **Wednesday & Thursday** but these are done in-between phone calls and waiting on patrons - you can't make an appointment, and I do get interrupted. These mini-readings usually last about 10-15 minutes. As long as there are no other scheduled readers in the shop (they drive in from a distance and it's just not fair to them) I am always happy to peek at someone's palm or throw a few cards, so don't hesitate to ask!

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**THE CIRCLE OF THE SACRED WELL PRESENTS**

**Lughnassadh Celebration** – Sunday August 2 – Join us this month as we celebrate the grain harvest! There will be a sabbat ritual and a potluck feast. Please bring a potluck item to share. Sabbat events replaces Shamanic Sunday this month. Event begins at 6:00pm at Talisman. Requested donation \$5.00:

**Shamanic Sunday** – September 6 - Meditation workshop held first Sunday of each month. Energy work and grounding, plus a semi-guided meditation. Event begins at 6:00 p.m. at Talisman. Requested donation \$ 5.00

Held at the Undercroft at Talisman. Learn more: <http://www.thecircleofthesacredwell.org/>

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**Community Events**

**The Connecticut Wiccan Pagan Network (CWPN) Inc.** is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit educational and networking organization dedicated to meeting the needs of the greater Wiccan and Pagan community in Connecticut and surrounding areas. The goal is to help provide a forum for Wiccans and Pagans to meet others of "like mind" and to come together and worship in a safe environment. Our hope has been to construct a sense of "community" in which we can all share with and learn from one another. Membership is open to all Wiccans, Pagans, and those with a serious interest in learning more about our religion. If you are under 18 years of age you may join with written parental consent. We reserve the right to refuse or terminate membership of anyone who we feel may be harmful to our organization or to the Wiccan/Pagan Community. Learn more at our website: <http://www.cwpn.org>. The CWPN hosts monthly networking meetings throughout the state, open Sabbat circles, coven and study group referral service, classes/work-shops, various social events and lectures with well-known members of the Pagan community.

**CWPN Harvest Gathering.** August 13-16 Camp Cedarcrest, Orange CT.

Harvest Gathering is a unique and magical festival that balances a strong focus on spiritual education with a fun, unplugged, and relaxed atmosphere. Enjoy a mythical adventure through workshops, classes, rituals, and entertainment. Pack your wings and be transported to the Light and Dark Faery Courts in the evenings and dine with Fae Royalty. Dance and frolic with satyrs, dryads, and goblins! Shop for magically crafted goodies from our many vendors, adorn your skin with mystical henna designs, get an insightful reading, or ease your mind and body after a long

day of classes with a massage or reflexology session.

Camp Cedarcrest offers a wonderful, close-knit community atmosphere that encourages a village-like setting. There are cabins and plenty of space for tenting. Look around to find some amazing spiritual spots for ritual, meditation, and hidden natural treasures.

**Activities:**

Evening Fire Circles

Drumming and Dancing

Daily Rituals

Day and Evening Entertainment

Rave in the Light of the Faery Seelie Court

Get Primal Around the Fire of the Faery UnSeelie Court

Awesome Vendors

Unique Raffle Items

Henna Tattoos and Body Art

Massage and Reflexology Therapists

Classes and workshops from world-renounced authors and community leaders:

Ronald Hutton

Stephanie Taylor

Raven Grimassi

Courtney Weber

Stephanie Woodfield

Patricia Lafayllve

Bernadette Montana

Morgan Daimler

Jessica Hunter

Robert Wandell

Lisa Tonner

Cori Burke

New this year! Evening passes include dinner and evening entertainment! See our website for more details!

For more information:

[www.cwpn.org/hq](http://www.cwpn.org/hq) • 203-942-0667 • oldcrow93@yahoo.com

CWPNHarvestGathering@yahoogroups.com

\*List may change due to unforeseen circumstances

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**Memories of the Soul:** A three day workshop with John Armitage. October 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> 2015 9:30 – 5:30ish. Masonic Hall – 215 Munson St. Greenfield, MA.

Did you know our DNA contains the programs of the 12 Stellar tribes (e.g. Arcturians, Pleadians, Sirians, Andromodans, etc)? In this workshop, we will link into your past lives in other star and planetary systems of this Universe, other Universes, and other aspects of creation. This will allow us to clear disempowerment and control programs from our cells and the collective consciousness. The process opens us up to the energies of the Golden Ages and enables us to live in freedom and love without conditions. This workshop is a journey through the history of humanity, starting way back in time before even living on planet Earth. In the workshop we will be visiting various star systems, visiting key periods in planetary history on Earth and moving forward to the now and beyond. We will also be visiting other time-lines, parallel Universes and other existences. We will neutralize and ground ourselves into the harmonics of what and who we truly are and align ourselves with our soul mission. People who have taken this class in Europe rave about it, and many have said they would retake it when it is offered – because every class opens you up to more expansive energies. This workshop reunites the individual energetically with parts of the self that have become separated and greatly expands the consciousness. The cost of this three day event will be **\$733.00 per person**. This will include breakfast, lunch, and snacks for all three days. If anyone has any food allergies please advise. The payment schedule will be as follows:

\$201.00 ASAP 2014 (**\$50.00** of this is a **non-refundable deposit**)

\$266.00 by March 15<sup>th</sup> 2015

\$266.00 by June 15<sup>th</sup> 2015

Please make checks payable to Barbara Allen and mail to:

Barbara Allen

POB 262

Goshen, CT 06756-0262

Questions? Call: 860 605 5939 or email: [mvbja@yahoo.com](mailto:mvbja@yahoo.com)

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**Hunter Healing Hands:** Located in Black Rock, Jessica and Jim Hunter's events include Reiki Share; monthly drum circle; classes and so much more! For details, cost, etc. please see <http://www.hunterhealinghands.com>. Contact 203-916-8381 to register for an event!

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**Finding Feathers** – A Spiritual Center located at 395 Commerce Drive, Fairfield. (203) 916-7887 or email [shaktidas@findingfeathersfairfield.com](mailto:shaktidas@findingfeathersfairfield.com). Calendar: <http://findingfeathersfairfield.com/event-calendar/>

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### **Astrology Corner**

**By Alethea Hunt, Astrologer**

August commences with Saturn resuming direct motion from his station in late Scorpio while in a square to a Jupiter/Venus conjunction in Leo. This is a “no more drama!” influence, so channel your inner Mary J. Blige and be prepared to shut the door on relationships that require heavy investment for minimal joy. Remember that Saturn leaves this sign for good in September, and it will be another 26+ years until he returns – that’s a long time to wait if we don’t set things energetically right and wind up literally and figuratively stuck at the station. In other areas, the social scene may prove a bit dicey at the beginning of the month, and philosophical differences in points of view are possible with friends – I might recommend begging out of parties during August’s first weekend as Saturn messing with the Aquarius Moon and Venus & Jupiter in Leo spells “killjoy” and potential “time/energy sink”. Jupiter combining with Venus is très hedonistic, so maybe it’s time to dial it back a bit anyway. Parents may want to keep an eye on who their kids are hanging with or what they’re up to around this time as well...but no snooping! Hmmm...why not use this energy to take the children and their friends on a (supervised) visit to an amusement part for some fun and games?

Home improvement projects get greenlighted with Mars in Cancer approaching a trine to Saturn in Scorpio on the 6th - just make sure if you’re DIY-ing that you’re qualified to do the work, or that whoever you hire is (and def do background checks!), because the potential for a hidden challenge or structural problem may arise and we don’t want to be in over our head. Moving along, Jupiter’s entrance into Virgo for a year-long stay on the 11th emphasizes improving health, workplace conditions, and on-the-job relations with co-workers and/or employees. The best time for summer fun – be it parties or a vacation - is right around the time of the Leo New Moon on August 14th. Though a planetary pileup in party-animal Leo dominates the majority of August, many of the planets square fuddy-duddy Saturn and it’s not until now that they escape his iron grip. This lunation’s contact to Uranus favors making new friends and being experimental with our concept of a good time. Just don’t include “substances” with the inconjunct to Chiron in Pisces in this mix – how about a concert or some transcendental meditation instead?

From a magickal standpoint, this is great energy to set an intention regarding creative endeavors – especially those that are novel/unusual and looking to be turned into a for-profit medium. It’s

also excellent mojo for dating, so try going to new meetups, have friends introduce you to people, and/or put a profile up on a dating website because Uranus does favor the use of digital technology. If you've done online dating before, maybe there's someone worth taking a second look at with Venus retrograding close proximity to this lunation. Or we could even meet someone out-of-the-blue at a social function for our kids – anything is possible with Venus/Uranus!

A crazy-intuitive Pisces Full Moon on the 29th is great for any form of divination or scrying and will also be especially helpful regarding medical matters – particularly if we've been suffering with a long-term or chronic illness. Perhaps a medical intuitive could even help. This is also an excellent time to seek treatment regarding any kind of addiction in order to lead a healthier lifestyle. The Virgo Sun opposite this lunation along with benefic Jupiter can signify the benefits of diet, nutrition, exercise in treating ailments, and besides this do incorporate the spiritual components into the picture as well rather than take just a single-pronged approach. On the other end of the spectrum, one thing I do want to say with this lunation is that there \*CAN\* also be such a thing as an addiction to wellness in play. Whether this includes over-exercise, a focus on eating only what we perceive as the "right" or "good" foods, or any other well-intentioned vehicle for wellness that can ultimately do more harm than good, if we find that we feel excessively guilty when we're not "on track", this can be a very subtle sign telling us that something is indeed amiss. Remember that when there is a strong polarity in play like this, it's all about moderation!

**\*\*\* A note to readers: If you would like to receive my FREE monthly newsletter via email click [HERE](#) or email [Alethea@EmpoweredDestiny.com](mailto:Alethea@EmpoweredDestiny.com) & I'll be happy to add your name to my list of recipients! You can also follow my nifty [astro-blog](#) or find me on Twitter ([@EmpwrDdstny](#)).**

**Namaste, my friends -  
"The Divinity within me perceives and adores  
the Divinity within you"  
\* Laura \***